

I am a United Airlines Flight Attendant who is shocked and concerned that the FCC is considering the usage of cell phones inflight. During the boarding process of the aircraft, we already have a problem on the airplane with passengers talking loudly on their cell phones. More than likely this loud intrusion will continue once inflight and could possibly become louder (due to the engine noise of the airplane one tends to talk louder). I have even observed angry comments, the fighting, the yelling, the crying etc... of passengers while on their cell phones. They tend to forget they are in a public place (the airplane) and everyone around them can hear their conversation loud and clear! Not only is this a loud intrusion to the other fellow passengers but it is also a potential safety hazard as well. For example, passengers getting annoyed by the loud conversation of another might try to quiet themselves with negative comments, which could pose troublesome. I most likely would have to police the situation which could and would compromise the safety and security of the cabin as well as my own safety. My fear of the passenger possibly becoming hostile because of my trying to get him/her to lower their voice, could become a very serious problem. But most importantly however, cell phones could be used by terrorists to communicate to other terrorists who could be on other airplanes on other airlines, about coordinating the timing of taking over aircrafts and, crashing it into buildings. There is a very potential threat as we all heard on the news that the terrorist would like to attempt another Sept. 11. I hope you will seriously consider the problems, the potential danger, and the extreme possibility of a terrorists act, if cell phone usage inflight became allowable.